

**MURRAY PARKS AND RECREATION  
ADVISORY BOARD**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2010**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Morgan Selph, Chair  
Lisa Nelson, Vice Chair  
Dani Murakami  
Ted Eyre

**Excused:** Bob Vanbibber

**Staff**

Doug Hill

The Parks & Recreation Board Meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by Chair, Morgan Selph.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Lisa Nelson made a motion to approve the November 4, 2009 board minutes as written. Ted Eyre seconded. Motion was unanimous.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

No citizens.

**DISCUSS GOLF COURSE FEE INCREASE PROPOSAL**

Doug Hill gave the board members some history on the golf course. He reported that the golf course:

- ▶ Does about 80,000 9-hole rounds of golf per year
- ▶ Golf has decreased in participation over the last decade
- ▶ Golf course is an enterprise fund
- ▶ Revenues stay at the golf course and the golf course pays for its expenses
- ▶ Reserves at the golf course are approximately \$300,000

Even though a slight increase in golf participation was seen over the last couple of years, this last year, the golf course has experienced a decrease in revenue of \$100,000 over last year. Because of this decrease in revenue, the staff has talked about considering fee increases.

Doug Hill provided the board members with a handout entitled “Extended Market Public Golf Fees” comparison chart. Doug said that Murray City golf course is on the low end of the market.

In looking at the various golf course fees, recommended increases are:

Green fees (9 holes)	\$12.50 to \$14
Cart rental	\$6.50 to \$7.00
Juniors (9 holes)	\$7.00 to \$8.00
Seniors (9 holes)	\$10.00 to \$11.50

Also, there is a recommendation to adjust the Murray High School rate, and the punch cards upwards to be consistent.

The estimate would be to generate about \$150,000 a year with these increases. Murray City’s major goal is to build up reserves.

Doug said that there is a five-year plan for the golf course which includes several large capital projects. The largest project is to replace the irrigation system. This system is 25 years old, and some of the parts are no longer available and have to be rebuilt. The system has a lot of inefficiencies. Estimates to replace this system would be approximately \$2 million.

Morgan Selph reported that the county was down \$500,000 in golf last year and that they felt it was because they had raised their fees. He said that Salt Lake City’s rounds of golf went up last year. However, he said that Salt Lake City is raising their prices this year; and he felt that this would be a good time for Murray to raise rates.

Ted Eyre made a motion to accept the fee increases as shown in the handout. Dani Murakami seconded. Vote was unanimous.

## **DISCUSS FIELD USE POLICY FOR NONRESIDENTS**

Doug said that this agenda item was requested by Bob Vanbibber. Doug said that when Bob Vanbibber asked to be excused from the meeting that Doug emailed him and asked if he wanted the item to be postponed until the next board meeting. Doug did not hear back from him.

Doug said that he was not sure what Bob Vanbibber wanted to talk about, but said that he could give the board some background on policy for nonresidents. Doug reported that for city owned facilities, there is no charge for Murray teams to use the fields. Nonresident teams are charged \$25 a game. The only fields available for nonresident use are the baseball and softball diamonds. He said that the definition for nonresident is when a team has less than 75% Murray resident players. Doug stated that there is very little revenue generated from field rental.

Doug said that he wasn’t sure what concerns Bob had with this subject, but that this item would be put on next month’s agenda.

## **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Ted Eyre made a motion that Lisa Nelson be Chair for this year for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Dani Murakami seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Lisa Nelson made a motion that Morgan Selph be Vice Chair for year 2010. Dani Murakami seconded. Vote was unanimous.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Doug said that he wanted to report on a Murray City youth swim program. This program is divided into two components—a Precomp program, consisting mainly of training, and MAC, the Murray Aquatics Club, a competitive swim team headed by the swim coach at Murray High School. The high school coach is hired by Murray City for this program.

Doug Hill reported that last month the coach met with Murray City and said that he was seriously considering not doing the program this year because of personal reasons. He wanted the city to be on notice that he may be leaving the program the end of March.

With this notice from the high school coach, the Park Center staff started to investigate alternatives.

Some of the options would be to (1) hire a new coach, (2) have a parent-run program, or (3) contract to an organization. With these options in mind, Randy Christensen, Murray City Aquatics Manager, contacted an organization called Fish Market, which is an organization made up of ex-college coaches from various parts of the United States, to come in and give a proposal. This particular organization is very competitive and, although they work with recreation, they train to get kids to Olympic trials.

Because this organization was invited into the Park Center to look at the MAC program, some parents thought that the city was going to hire Fish Market to take over, and they did not want to be involved with them. The parents were very upset with this, and they made it clear to the city that they did not want this organization heading the swim club. The parents wanted to attend the Parks & Recreation Board meeting; however, the city was able to get together enough parents, and the coach to schedule a meeting to explain what was happening. The parents were afraid that if Fish Market came in, that the program would be too competitive and fees too high.

Because of this meeting, parents did not attend the Parks & Recreation Board meeting because they felt the issue had been resolved. Doug said that the issue has not gone away; because if the coach does resign, the city will have to make a decision about the program. The parents made it very clear that they did not want to go with Fish Market.

Morgan Selph said that he felt communication was the problem, and that the parents wanted to be involved and have a say as to what happened with the MAC club. Doug said that he agreed; and that if the coach resigns and the city has to find a new coach or a new direction for the club, that meetings will be held involving MAC people.

## **QUESTIONS**

Ted Eyre asked if the Armory building could be rented out. Doug said that it could be rented; however, there is no power or heat. At the moment, it is basically storage area.

Morgan Selph reported that tomorrow is the Envision Utah-Jordan River presentation. He said that Mayor Snarr, Darren Stam, and Doug Hill will be going. He said that it will be at the West Valley Utah Cultural Center if anyone would like to attend. Doug said that there will be a speaker there from Boston who was involved with the restoration of the Charles River.

Ted Eyre asked if the golf course could be divided into zones and the irrigation system replaced a little at a time. Doug said that he had asked about that as well; however, with the golf course torn up over a long period of time versus a shorter time period to finish the work all at once that it would have less of an impact on use and revenue.

Ted Eyre made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lisa Nelson seconded. Motion was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, February 10, 2010, at 5:30pm in the Parks & Recreation office conference room.